



BOB RILEY
Governor

Alabama Medicaid Agency

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MIKE LEWIS
Acting Commissioner

Provider Notice 03-06

DATE: June 17, 2003

TO: Nursing Homes, ICF/MRs, IMDs and Pharmacies

RE: Destruction of Medication for Long Term Care Recipients/Residents

Effective July 14, 2003, the Alabama Medicaid Agency will implement the following policy change regarding the destruction of medications for long term care residents.

"When a resident leaves the facility and is expected to return, a facility shall hold all medications until the return of the resident. All continued or re-ordered medications will be placed in active medication cycles upon the return of the resident. If the resident does not return to the facility within 30 days, any medications held by the facility shall be placed with other medications for destruction or distribution as permitted by the State Board of Pharmacy regulations. If at the time of discharge it is known that the patient will not return, medications may be destroyed or donated as allowed by State law."

This change is being made as the Agency explores avenues of cost-containment. Currently, these medications are being destroyed and must be refilled at a cost to the Agency and a burden to the facility and pharmacy. If the medications are not held in accordance with this policy, the facility will be responsible for all costs associated with replacement of the medication.

If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Ferguson, Director, Long Term Care Division, at (334) 242-5009 or e-mail mferguson@medicaid.state.al.us.

Mike Lewis, Acting Commissioner

REMINDER: All Medicaid recipients are required to present their Medicaid eligibility card and proper identification to a provider of medical services for verification of eligibility when seeking treatment or service under the Medicaid program.

Distribution List:

Alabama State Medical Association
Medical Association of the State of Alabama
Alabama Hospice Association
Alabama Hospital Association
Alabama Dept. of MH/MR
American Pharmacy Coop., Inc.

Alabama Nursing Home Association
Division of Health Care Facilities
Electronic Data Systems
Alabama Medicaid Agency Staff
Alabama Independent Drugstore Association
Alabama Pharmacy Association

Our Mission - to provide an efficient and effective system of financing health care for our beneficiaries.